SECRET

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22-61-477

16 January 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Abel Case

After consulting with State, Justice, SR, and the CI Staff, I called Mr. Donovan and said we were agreed that he should send Abel's wife a straightforward, simple description of how elemency matters are handled in this country. He said he would do so and send us a copy and let us know at once if there were any further reactions. Justice is checking to see whether it has a copy of the actual letter Abel wrote his wife so we can see precisely what instructions he gave her.

SIGNED

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON General Counsel

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